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Kiyoshi TOYODATitle: IMAGE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND  
IMAGE COMMUNICATION METHOD

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

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## APPLICATION ELEMENTS

## ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form
2. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 20 ]  
(preferred arrangement set forth below)  
- Descriptive title of the Invention  
- Cross References to Related Applications  
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D  
- Reference to Microfiche Appendix  
- Background of the Invention  
- Brief Summary of the Invention  
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)  
- Detailed Description  
- Claim(s)  
- Abstract of the Disclosure
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) [Total Sheets 8 ]
4. ☒ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 3 ]  
a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy) ☐ Unexecuted  
b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)  
[Note Box 5 below]  
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Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)  
named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2)  
and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked)  
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy  
of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered  
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8. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney  
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Typed or Printed Name

# **SPECIFICATION**

**TITLE OF THE INVENTION :**

**IMAGE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND  
IMAGE COMMUNICATION METHOD**

**INVENTOR :**

**Kiyoshi TOYODA**

# IMAGE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND IMAGE COMMUNICATION METHOD

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### Field of the Invention

5           The present invention relates to an image communication apparatus for transmitting transmitted/received data to an information management center, and relates to an image communication method.

### Description of the Related Art

10           By the revision of law made by Federal Securities and Exchange Commission in US, securities firms are obliged to have all data received by a facsimile apparatus browsed by a supervisor per reception and to store all copies. It is considered that a considerable amount of  
15 operations such as copying operation, filing operation, etc., occurs in order to abide by the law, and this causes troubles in day to day businesses.

          In connection with such obligation, it is thought that data is received by the facsimile apparatus,  
20 thereafter, the same data is newly facsimile transmitted to a file server of an information management center for storing received data, document, etc. Also, it is thought that data is transmitted by the facsimile apparatus, thereafter, the same data is newly facsimile  
25 transmitted to the center. However, there is a problem in that such a facsimile transmission of the same data to the center after performing the facsimile transmission

or reception causes an increase in communication costs.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide an image communication apparatus and an image communication method capable of reducing communication costs to the center.

The present invention transmits image data transmitted and received to the center by e-mail on the Internet.

The transmission of image data to the center is carried out through the Internet, allowing the communication costs to be largely reduced.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above and other objects and features of the invention will appear more fully hereinafter from a consideration of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein one example is illustrated by way of example, in which;

FIG. 1 is a conceptual view showing a network where an Internet facsimile apparatus operates according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing hardware of the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing functions of the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above

embodiment;

FIG. 4 is a functional block diagram showing an IFAX processing section of the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

5        FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing steps of e-mail transmission processing in the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

10       FIG. 6 is a flowchart showing steps of facsimile transmission processing in the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment;

FIG. 7 is a flowchart showing steps of e-mail reception processing in the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment; and

15       FIG. 8 is a flowchart showing steps of facsimile reception processing in the Internet facsimile apparatus according to the above embodiment.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

20       The following will specifically explain the embodiment of the present invention with reference to the drawings accompanying herewith.

FIG. 1 is a conceptual view showing a network where an Internet facsimile apparatus operates according to an embodiment of the present invention.

25       An Internet facsimile apparatus (hereinafter referred to as IFAX) 1 according to the above embodiment is installed in a securities firm A. This IFAX 1 is

connected to LAN 2 installed in the securities firm A. This LAN 2 is connected to the Internet 3. Communication terminals such as PC 4 installed in a customer B and IFAX 5 installed in a branch office are connected to the Internet 3.

IFAX 1 transmits and receives image data between PC 4 and IFAX 5 by e-mail via LAN 2 and the Internet 3. While, IFAX 1 is connected to a public switched phone network (PSTN) 6. IFAX 1 transmits and receives facsimile data between G3FAX 7 and IFAX 1 via PSTN 6.

As mentioned above, IFAX 1 transmits and receives data such as image data among PC4, IFAX 5 and G3FAX 7. IFAX 1 transmits these data to a file server 9 provided in an information management center 8 via the Internet 3. Thereby, IFAX 1 transmits all communication contents to the file server 9 of the center 8. One or two or more of the center 8 are provided in order that the securities firm A stores replication of the content of communication carried out by IFAX provided in the securities firm A. The apparatus to be provided in the center 8 is not limited to file server 9, and IFAX, for example, may be provided therein. Also, the file server 9 may not be provided on the Internet 3. For example, the file server can be provided on the LAN 2 in the securities firm A.

The following will specifically explain IFAX 1 according to this embodiment.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing hardware of the

IFAX according to the above embodiment. A CPU 11 executes a program, and controls the entirety of the apparatus. A ROM 12 stores the program executed by CPU 11.

A RAM 13 has a work area where the program is executed, and a buffer area where various kinds of data such as e-mail, image file, etc., are temporarily stored.

A FAX & voice processing section 14 modulates facsimile data and voice and outputs the modulated data to PSTN 6, and demodulates modulated data received from PSTN 6 to facsimile data and voice data.

A scanner 15 scans an original and obtains image data. A printer 16 prints various kinds of data including received image data.

A LAN interference 17 executes protocols necessary for transmitting and receiving data on LAN 2. Herein, the protocols used for transmitting and receiving data include, for example, a mail transfer protocol such as SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol) and a file transfer protocol such as HTTP, ETP.

A panel control section 18 comprises dial keys and touch panels, and receives operations to be done by an operator such as a specification of a communication partner, an instruction of transmission start, etc.

ROM 12 stores the program, and CPU 11 executes the program. An explanation of the functions to be resultantly implemented will be given as follows. FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing the functions of IFAX 1 according to the

above embodiment.

IFAX 1 comprises a FAX & voice controlling section 100, a scanner controlling section 200, and a printer controlling section 300, and controls each of the FAX & voice processing section 14, scanner 15, and printer 16.

Also, IFAX 1 comprises an IFAX processing section 400 that implements the function as the so-called Internet facsimile apparatus (hereinafter referred to as IFAX). This IFAX processing section 400 transmits and receives e-mail via LAN 2 by use of LAN interface 17. In other words, e-mail is received from a sender, and the received data is printed by the printer 16. At this time, if an image file is appended to e-mail, the content of the image file is printed by the printer 16. While, IFAX processing section 400 converts the image data obtained by the scanner 15 to e-mail to be transmitted.

FIG. 4 is a functional block diagram showing the IFAX processing section 400 of the IFAX according to the above embodiment. The scanner controlling section 200 sends row image data (for example, bit map data) scanned by the scanner 16 to the IFAX processing section 400. In the IFAX processing section 400, a compressing and decompressing section 401 compresses row image data in a compression format such as MH, and obtains compressed files. The compression is carried out in unit of one page of original. A TIFRF converting section 402 converts these compressed files to one TIFF (Tag Image File Format).



An e-mail generating section 403 appends this TIFF file to a multi-part mail in accordance with, for example, MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension), and generates I-FAX mail.

- 5           A mail transmitting section 404 transmits the generated I-FAX mail to a mail server via LAN interface 17 in accordance with, for example, SMTP.

While, in the IFAX processing section 400, when a mail receiving section 405 receives the I-FAX mail via  
10   LAN interference 17, a binary converting section 406 converts the appended file included in the I-FAX mail from a text code to binary data and obtains the TIFF file. A TIFF decompressing section 407 decompresses the obtained  
15   and decompressing section 401 decompresses these compressed files, and obtains row image data. The row image data is printed by the printer 16.

In the aforementioned IFAX processing section 400, a mail address input by the panel control section 18 is  
20   sent to an address setting section 408. The address setting section 408 sets this mail address to a destination address [To:] of I-FAX mail.

Also, the IFAX processing section 400 converts facsimile data received by the FAX & voice processing  
25   section 14 to e-mail. In other words, the compressed file received as facsimile data is converted to the TIFF file, and this TIFF file is appended to the multi-part mail,

so that the IFAX mail is generated.

Next, an explanation is given of the processing, which is carried out when the I-FAX mail is transmitted in the above-configured IFAX 1. FIG. 5 is a flowchart  
5 showing steps of e-mail transmission processing in the IFAX 1 according to the above embodiment.

An operator places an original on a document glass, and inputs a mail address for a destination (hereinafter referred to as destination address) from the panel.  
10 Thereafter, when the operator depresses a transmission button, IFAX 1 scans the original (step (hereinafter referred to as ST) 501).

Next, the panel control section 18 sends the destination address input from the panel to the address  
15 setting section 408. The address setting section 408 sets the destination address to [To:] field of the header of I-FAX mail or [Cc:] field (ST502).

Next, the address setting section 408 sets a predetermined destination address to [Bcc:] field  
20 (ST503). This predetermined destination address denotes a mail address (hereinafter referred to as center address) of the file server 9 provided in the center 8. This center address is stored in RAM 13.

Thereafter, IFAX 1 converts image data scanned in  
25 ST501 to e-mail (ST504). In other words, IFAX 1 generates I-FAX mail to the address set by the address setting section 408.

When e-mail is received, IFAX 1 determines whether or not this e-mail is an error mail (ST506). If this

5 e-mail is an error mail, IFAX 1 checks whether the error  
mail is one of e-mail to the file server 9 of the center  
8 or one of the general e-mail. More specifically, a  
destination mail address of e-mail transmitted by IFAX  
1, which is included in the error mail, is recognized  
10 (ST507).

It is checked whether or not the destination mail address identified in ST507 is the center address (ST508). Here, if the destination mail address identified is the center address, all contents of error mail are printed by the printer 16 (ST509).

While, if the destination mail address identified is not the center address, specific information is printed by the printer 16 (ST510). Here, the specific information is, for example, image data, which corresponds to the first page of the original, and an error message, which shows occurrence of an error.

Next, an explanation will be given of the processing, which is performed when facsimile data is transmitted in the above-configured IFAX 1. FIG. 6 is a flowchart showing steps of facsimile transmission processing in IFAX 1 according to the above embodiment.

An operator places an original on a document glass,

and inputs a destination FAX number from the panel. Thereafter, when the operator depresses a transmission button, IFAX 1 scans the original (ST601). Raw image data (BMP data) obtained is stored in RAM 13 (ST602).

5       Next, the panel control section 18 sends the FAX number to the FAX & voice controlling section 100. The FAX & voice controlling section 100 facsimile transmits raw image data (bit map data) stored in RAM 13 to G3FAX of the FAX number input via PSTN 6 (ST603).

10       Next, the IFAX processing section 400 of IFAX 1 converts the raw image data stored in RAM 13 in ST602 to I-FAX mail (ST604). At this time, the address setting section 408 sets a predetermined address to [To:] field of the header of I-FAX mail. Then, IFAX 1 transmits this  
15       I-FAX mail to the mail transmitting section 404.

The following will explain a case in which IFAX 1 according to the above embodiment receives e-mail. FIG. 7 is a flowchart showing steps of e-mail reception processing in IFAX according to the above embodiment.

20       If e-mail is received in ST701, the mail receiving section 405 of the IFAX processing section 400 of IFAX 1 stores received e-mail to RAM 13 (ST702).

Next, it is determined whether or not e-mail is an error mail (ST703). If e-mail is not an error mail, it  
25       is determined whether or not it is a transfer mail (ST704). The transfer mail is e-mail that requests IFAX 1 to transfer image data to the other facsimile apparatus.

For example, if a password for relay is put in a mail address on the left from @, it is determined as a transfer mail. For example, in a case of PASSWD#123456@mgcs.co.jp, IFAX 1 transfers e-mail to FAX number 123456 using G3 FAX.

5        If e-mail is not a transfer mail, that is, e-mail is general e-mail, the IFAX processing section 400 transfers e-mail to the file server 9 of the center 8 (ST705). More specifically, the IFAX processing section 400 generates e-mail, which includes the received e-mail  
10        directly. The address setting section 408 sets a predetermined address (center address) to [To:] field of the header of this e-mail. This e-mail is transmitted by the mail transmitting section 404.

Next, the IFAX processing section 400 prints the  
15        content of the received e-mail (ST706). More specifically, if the received e-mail is an IFAX mail, image data included in TIFF file appended thereto is printed by the printer 16. At this time, a text portion of the IFAX mail is also printed by the printer 16. After  
20        the end of printing image data, etc., e-mail stored in RAM 13 is erased (ST707).

On the other hand, if received e-mail is an error mail in ST703, specific information is extracted from the error mail (ST708), and the extracted specific  
25        information is printed by the printer 16 (ST709). Thereafter, e-mail stored in RAM 13 is erased (ST707).

Also, if the received e-mail is a transfer mail in

ST704, a transfer destination is extracted (ST710). Next, the IFAX processing section 400 converts e-mail to facsimile data (ST711). The FAX & voice control section 100 transmits the obtained facsimile data to the FAX & voice processing section 14 (ST712). Then, the IFAX processing section 400 transfers the received e-mail to the file server 9 of the center 8 in the same manner as that of ST705. Thereafter, e-mail stored in RAM 13 is erased (ST707).

10 The following will explain a case in which IFAX 1 according to the above embodiment receives facsimile data. FIG. 8 is a flowchart showing steps of facsimile reception processing in IFAX according to the above embodiment.

15 If facsimile data is received in ST801, the FAX & voice controlling section 100 of IFAX 1 stores the received facsimile data to RAM 13 (ST802). Next, the printer controlling section 300 prints facsimile data using the printer 16 (ST803).

20 Next, the IFAX controlling section 400 converts facsimile data to IFAX mail (ST804). The address of this IFAX mail is set to the center address. The mail transmitting section of the IFAX processing section 400 transmits this IFAX mail to LAN (ST805). Thereafter, e-mail stored in RAM 13 is erased (ST806).

25 According to the above-configured IFAX 1, since IFAX 1 automatically duplicates all of the transmitted and received e-mail, IFAX mail, and facsimile data, and

transmits them to the file server 9 of the center 8. There is no worry that the operator and manager must expend time and effort. Moreover, the transmission of data to the center 8 is carried out by IFAX mail, and this allows  
5 communication costs to be largely reduced.

Further, in the flowchart shown in FIG. 5, since the destination address is set to [To:] field and the center address is set to [Bcc:], the destination address is included in the header of the e-mail received by the  
10 receiver side but the center address is not included therein. This makes it possible to prevent the transmission of the duplication of e-mail to the center from being known by the receiver side.

Moreover, as in ST506 to ST510 of the flowchart  
15 shown in FIG. 5 and in ST606 to ST610 of the flowchart shown in FIG. 6, if IFAX 1 receives the error mail, which indicates that the transmitted e-mail has not been normally sent to the transmission destination, the transmission destination is determined from the error  
20 mail. Then, if the transmission destination is the center 8, all of the contents of the error mail are printed, and if the transmission destination is not the center 8, specific information is extracted from the error mail, and this specific information is printed. Whereby, in  
25 a case where the transfer of data to the center 8 fails for some reason, IFAX 1 prints all of the error mail and this printed material is stored, allowing obligation to

store the duplication to be performed without fail. While, if the normal transmission of e-mail to the transmission destination fails, only the specific information is printed, making it possible to prevent  
5 all of the error mail from being printed so as to avoid waste of recording paper.

The present invention is not limited to the above-mentioned embodiment. For example, in the aforementioned embodiment, IFAX 1 is connected to  
10 Internet 3 via LAN 2, but the Internet connection method may be a dialup connection.

As explained above, according to the present invention, image data transmitted and received by the image communication apparatus provided in the securities  
15 firm, etc., is automatically transmitted to the center on the Internet by use of e-mail, and this makes it possible to easily transmit image data to the center and to largely reduce the communication costs required for the transmission of image data to the center.

20 The present invention is not limited to the above described embodiments, and various variations and modifications may be possible without departing from the scope of the present invention.

This application is based on the Japanese Patent  
25 Application No.HEI11-287942 filed on October 8, 1999, entire content of which is expressly incorporated by reference herein.



What is claimed is:

1. An image communication apparatus comprising:  
image data transmitting and receiving section is adapted to transmit and receiving image data; and

5 e-mail transmitting section is adapted to transmit the image data transmitted and received by said image data transmitting and receiving section to a center on the Internet by use of e-mail.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further  
10 comprising error processing section is adapted to determine a transmission destination from an error mail when receiving said error mail showing that no e-mail transmitted by a self-apparatus is normally sent to said transmission destination, and for printing all of said  
15 error mail when said transmission destination is equal to the center, and for extracting specific information from said error mailer to print the specific information when said transmission destination is unequal to the center.

20 3. An image communication apparatus comprising:  
scanning section is adapted to scan an original to obtain image data; and

e-mail transmitting section is adapted to transmit  
e-mail including said image data to a transmission  
25 destination and a center.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said e-mail transmitting section sets a mail address of the

transmission destination and a mail address of the center to [To:] field of e-mail and [Bcc:] field of said e-mail, respectively.

5        5. The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising error processing section is adapted to determine a transmission destination from an error mail when receiving said error mail showing that no e-mail transmitted by a self-apparatus is normally sent to said transmission destination, for printing all of said error  
10 mail when said transmission destination is equal to the center, and for extracting specific information from said error mailer to print the specific information when said transmission destination is unequal to the center.

15        6. An image communication apparatus comprising: facsimile transmitting section is adapted to transmit information through a facsimile protocol; and e-mail transmitting section is adapted to transmit e-mail including said image data to a center.

20        7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said e-mail transmitting section sets the center to [To:] field of said e-mail.

25        8. The apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising error processing section is adapted to determine a transmission destination from an error mail when receiving said error mail showing that no e-mail transmitted by a self-apparatus is normally sent to said transmission destination, for printing all of said error



the step of transmitting the e-mail.

13. The method according to claim 11, further comprising :

5 determining a transmission destination from an error mail when receiving said error mail showing that no e-mail transmitted by a self-apparatus is normally sent to said transmission destination;

printing all of said error mail when said transmission destination is equal to the center; and

10 extracting specific information from said error mailer to print the specific information when said transmission destination is unequal to the center.

14. An image communication method comprising :

15 transmitting information through a facsimile protocol; and

transmitting e-mail including said image data to a center.

20 15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the center is specified to [To:] field of said e-mail in the step of transmitting the e-mail.

16. The method according to claim 14, further comprising :

25 determining a transmission destination from an error mail when receiving said error mail showing that no e-mail transmitted by a self-apparatus is normally sent to said transmission destination;

printing all of said error mail when said

Case	Year	Age	Sex	Occupation	Location	Time of day	Time of year	Weather	Activity	Onset	Duration	Severity	Frequency	Associated symptoms	Diagnosis	Treatment	Outcome
1	1998	25	M	Student	USA	10:00	Spring	Sunny	Walking	Sudden	10 min	Mild	Once	None	Stroke	None	Recovered
2	2001	35	F	Teacher	USA	15:00	Summer	Hot	Teaching	Sudden	15 min	Moderate	Twice	Headache	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
3	2003	45	M	Engineer	USA	08:00	Autumn	Cloudy	Working	Sudden	20 min	Severe	Three times	Nausea, vomiting	Stroke	Surgery	Recovered
4	2005	55	F	Retired	USA	12:00	Winter	Clear	Walking	Sudden	30 min	Severe	Four times	Weakness, numbness	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
5	2007	65	M	Farmer	USA	06:00	Spring	Foggy	Working	Sudden	45 min	Severe	Five times	Loss of consciousness	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
6	2009	75	F	Homemaker	USA	18:00	Summer	Hot	Watching TV	Sudden	1 h	Severe	Six times	Slurred speech	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
7	2011	85	M	Retired	USA	09:00	Autumn	Clear	Walking	Sudden	1 h 15 min	Severe	Seven times	Weakness, numbness	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
8	2013	95	F	Retired	USA	14:00	Winter	Clear	Walking	Sudden	1 h 30 min	Severe	Eight times	Loss of consciousness	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
9	2015	105	M	Retired	USA	11:00	Spring	Sunny	Walking	Sudden	1 h 45 min	Severe	Nine times	Slurred speech	Stroke	Medication	Recovered
10	2017	115	F	Retired	USA	16:00	Summer	Hot	Watching TV	Sudden	2 h	Severe	Ten times	Weakness, numbness	Stroke	Medication	Recovered

IFAX is installed in securities firm A. PC is installed in a customer B and the other IFAX is installed in a branch C. IFAX transmits and receives image data between PA and IFAX via LAN and the Internet by use of e-mail. While, IFAX is connected to PSTN. IFAX transmits and receives facsimile data between 3FAX and IFAX via PSTN. IFAX transmits and receives image data among PC and the other IFAX and G3FAX and transmits the same image data to a host computer installed in a center via the Internet at the same time. This results in reduction in communication costs with respect to the center.



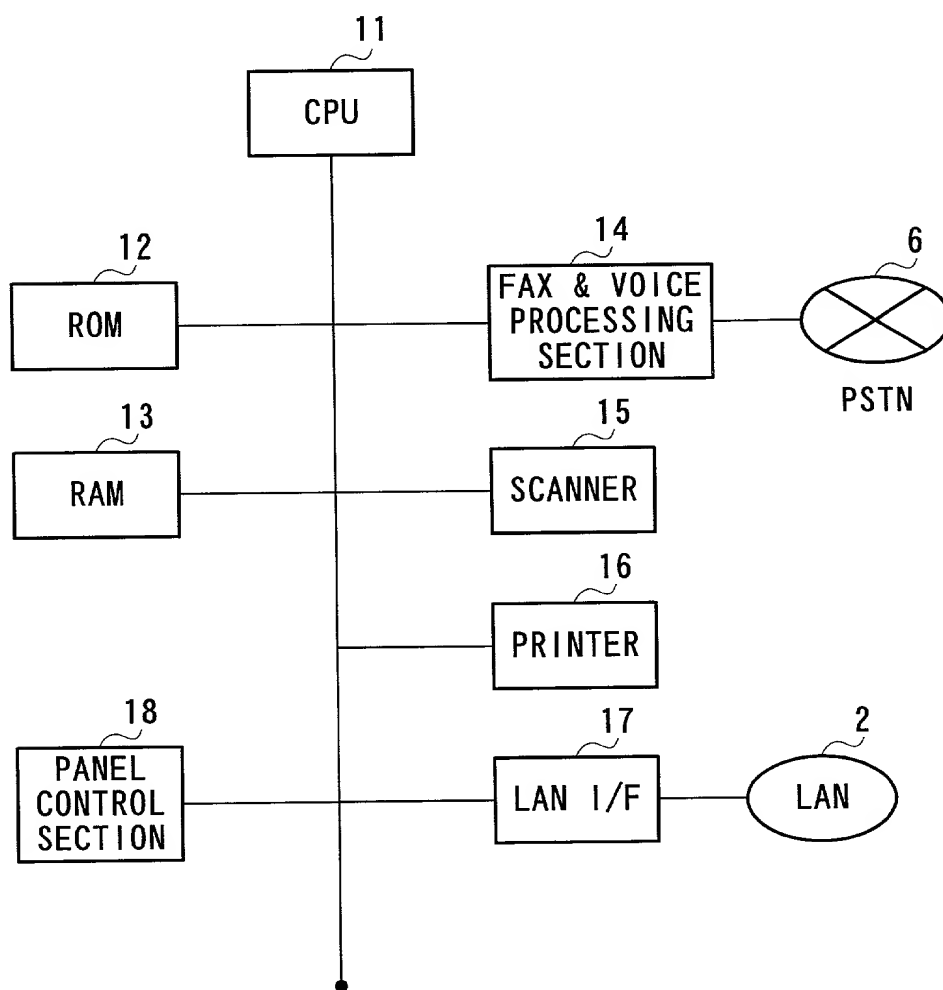


FIG. 2



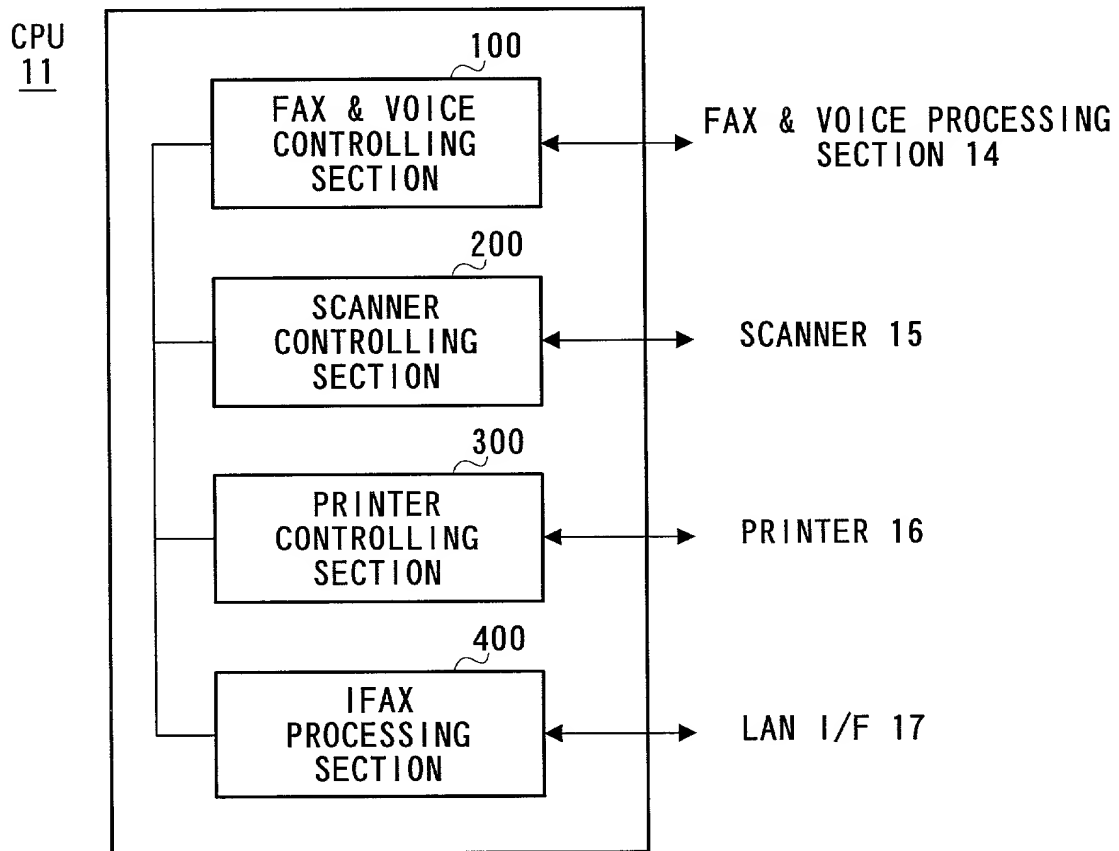
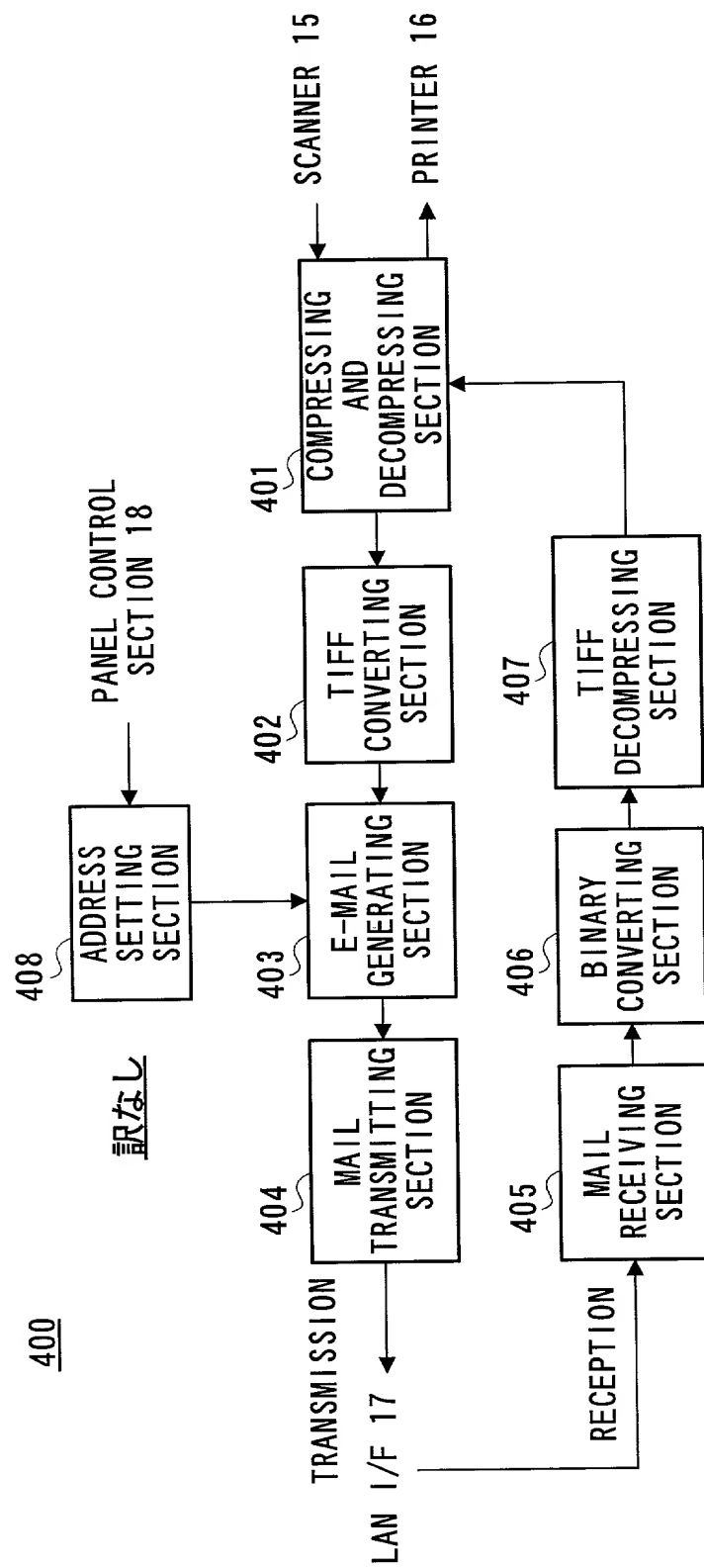


FIG. 3



**FIG. 4**

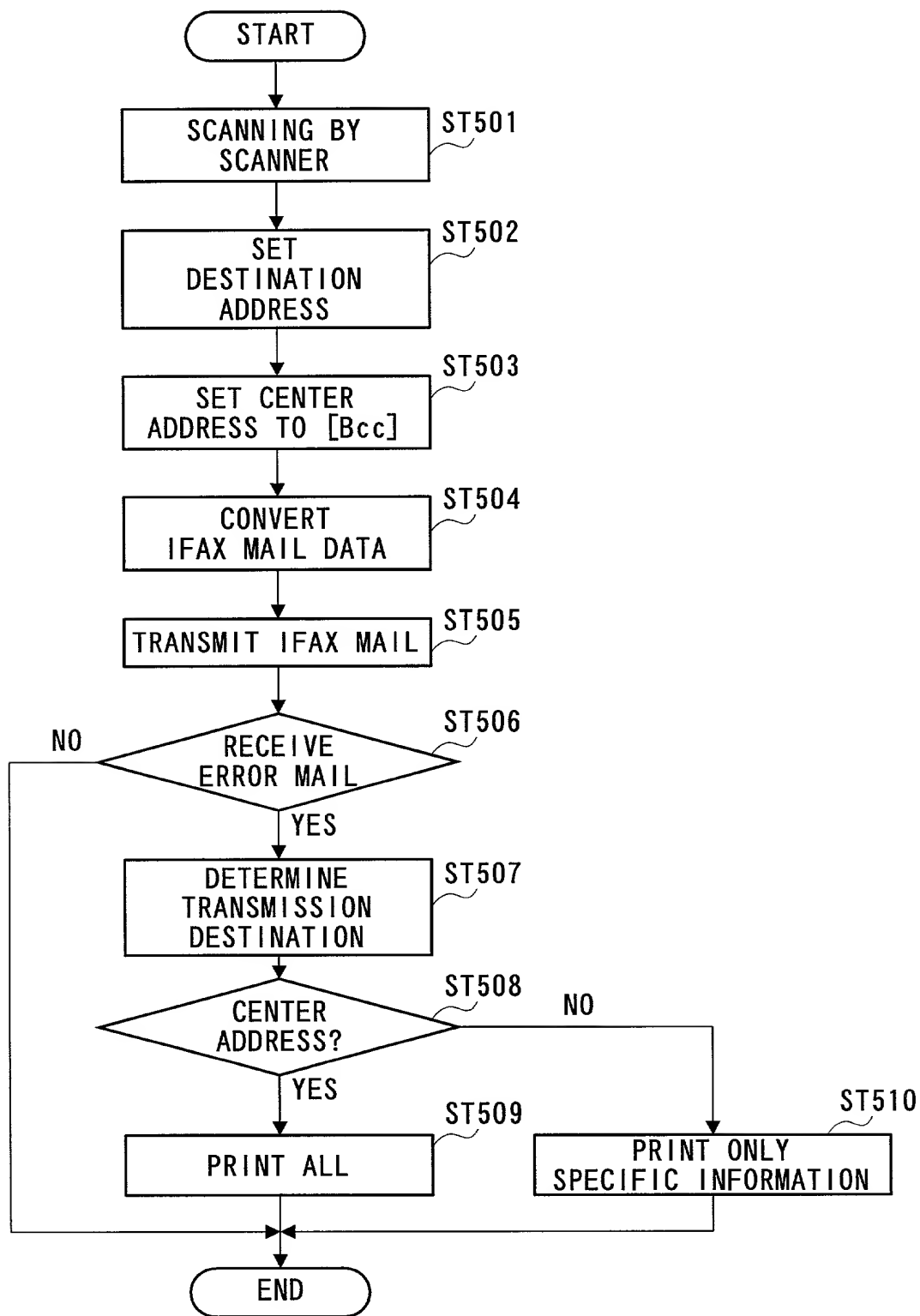


FIG. 5

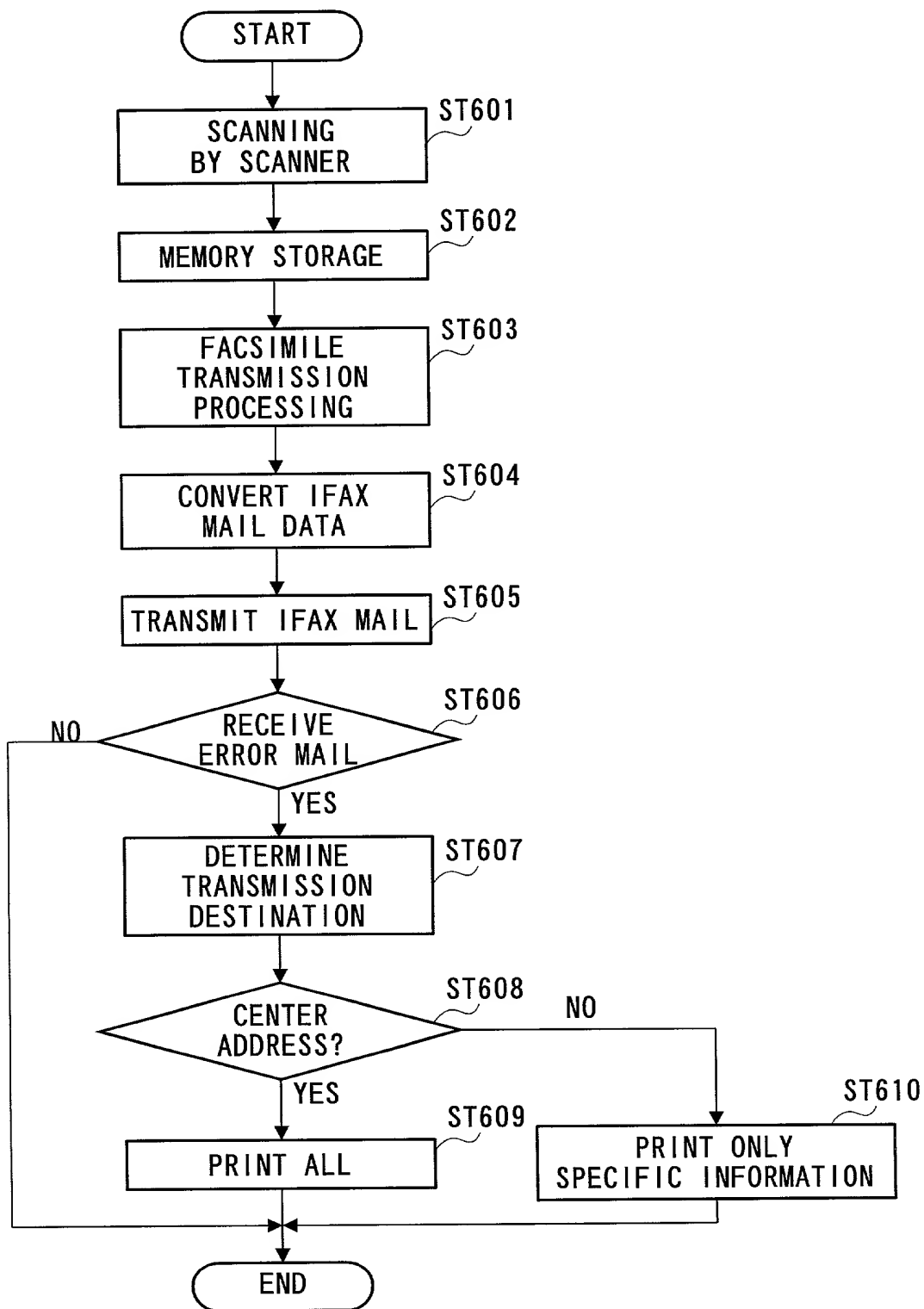


FIG. 6

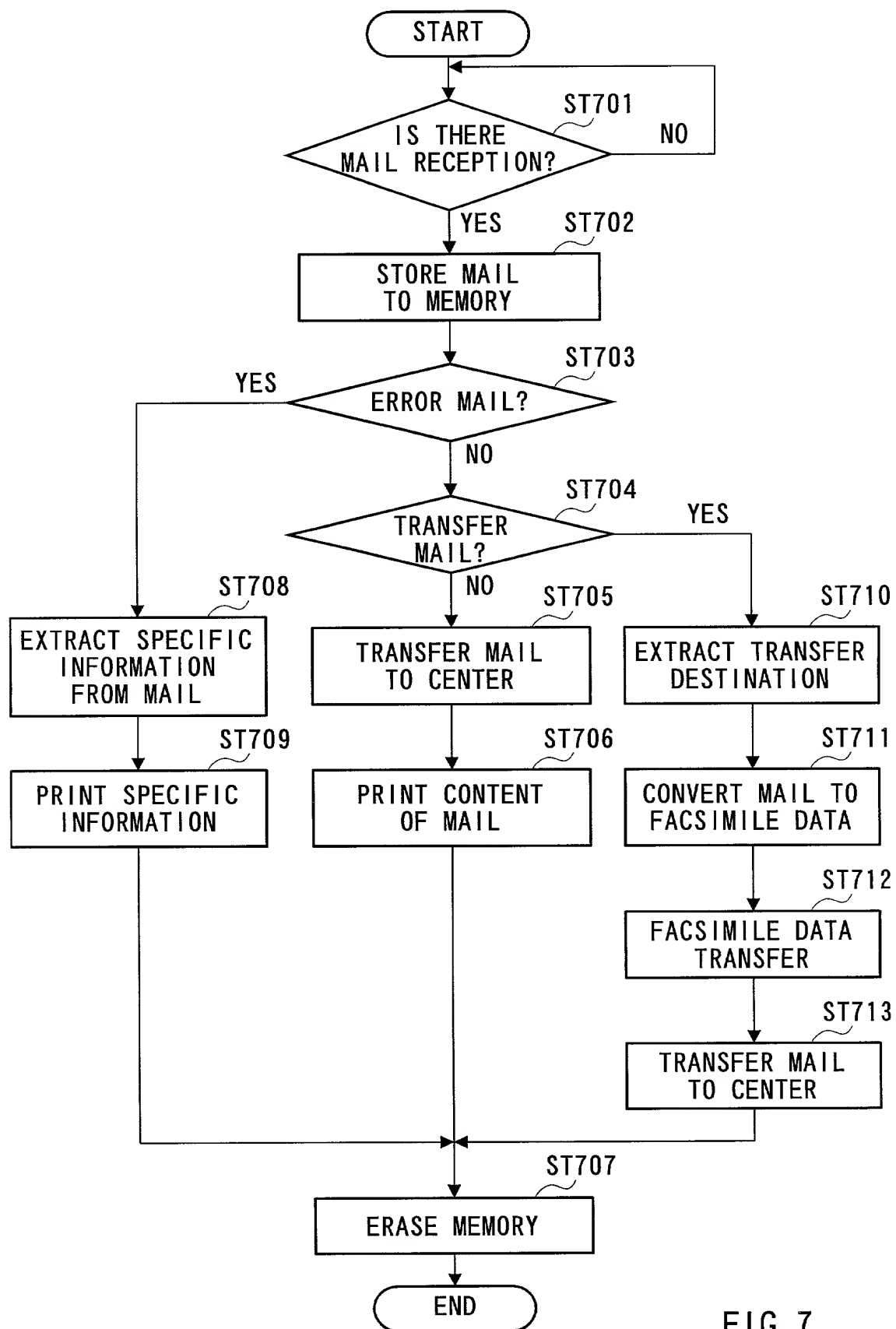


FIG. 7

```
graph TD; START([START]) --> ST801{IS THERE FACSIMILE DATA RECEPTION?}; ST801 -- NO --> ST801; ST801 -- YES --> ST802[STORE FACSIMILE DATA TO MEMORY]; ST802 --> ST803[PRINT FACSIMILE DATA]; ST803 --> ST804[CONVERT FACSIMILE DATA TO IFAX MAIL]; ST804 --> ST805[TRANSMIT IFAX MAIL TO CENTER]; ST805 --> ST806[ERASE MEMORY]; ST806 --> END([END]);
```

The flowchart illustrates the IFAX mail processing procedure. It begins with a START terminal, leading to a decision diamond (ST801) asking "IS THERE FACSIMILE DATA RECEPTION?". If the answer is "NO", the flow loops back to the entry point before the decision. If the answer is "YES", the process proceeds to a rectangular block (ST802) labeled "STORE FACSIMILE DATA TO MEMORY". This is followed by a rectangular block (ST803) labeled "PRINT FACSIMILE DATA", then another rectangular block (ST804) labeled "CONVERT FACSIMILE DATA TO IFAX MAIL", then a rectangular block (ST805) labeled "TRANSMIT IFAX MAIL TO CENTER", and finally a rectangular block (ST806) labeled "ERASE MEMORY". The process concludes at an END terminal.

FIG. 8

# Declaration and Power of Attorney For Utility or Design Patent Application

## 特許出願宣言書

### Japanese Language Declaration

私は、下欄に氏名を記載した発明者として、以下のとおり宣言する:

私の住所、郵便の宛先および国籍は、下欄に氏名に続いて記載したとおりであり、

名称の発明に関し、請求の範囲に記載した特許を求める主題の本来の、最初にして唯一の発明者である(一人の氏名のみが下欄に記載されている場合)か、もしくは本来の、最初にして共同の発明者である(複数の氏名が下欄に記載されている場合)と信じ、

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

### IMAGE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND IMAGE COMMUNICATION METHOD

the specification of which

(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_

and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a-d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the "No" box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

その明細書を

該当するほうに印を付す)

☐ ここに添付する。

\_\_\_\_\_ 日に出願番号

\_\_\_\_\_ 号として提出し、

\_\_\_\_\_ 日に補正した。

(該当する場合)

私は、前期のとおりに補正した請求の範囲を含む前記明細書の内容を検討し、理解したことを陳述する。

私は、連邦規則法典第37部第1章第56条に従い、本題の審査に所要の情報を開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

私は合衆国法典第35部第119条(a-d)項又は第365条(b)項に基づき、下記の外国特許出願又は発明者証出願、或いは第365条(a)項に基づき、少なくとも米国以外の1ヶ国を指名したPCT国際出願の外国優先権利益を主張し、更に優先権の主張に係わる基礎出願の出願日前の出願日を有する外国特許出願、又は発明者証出願或いはPCT国際出願を以下に明記する:

Prior foreign applications

先の外国出願

JP11-287942	JAPAN	08/October/1999
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(番号)	(国名)	(出願の年月日)
_____	_____	_____
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(番号)	(国名)	(出願の年月日)
_____	_____	_____
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(番号)	(国名)	(出願の年月日)
_____	_____	_____

Priority claimed

優先権の主張

☒ ☐

Yes No  
あり なし

☐ ☐

Yes No  
あり なし

☐ ☐

Yes No  
あり なし

# Japanese Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

私は、合衆国法典第35部第119条(e)項に基づき、下記の合衆国仮特許出願の利益を主張する。

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Number)  
(番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
出願の年月日

(Application Number)  
(番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
出願の年月日

(Application Number)  
(番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
出願の年月日

☐ その他の合衆国仮特許出願番号は別紙の追補優先権欄にて記載する。

☐ Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

私は、合衆国法典第35部第120条に基づき下記の合衆国特許出願、又は第365条(c)項に基づき合衆国を指名したPCT国際出願の利益を主張し、本願の請求の範囲各項に記載の主題が合衆国法典第35部第112条第1項規定の態様で、先の合衆国特許出願又はPCT国際出願に開示されていない限度において、先の出願の出願日と本願の国内出願日又はPCT国際出願日の間に有効となった連邦規則法典第37部第1章第56条に記載の特許要件に所要の情報を開示すべき義務を有することを認める。

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application No.)  
(出願番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(出願の年月日)

(現況)  
(特許済み、係属中、放棄済み)

(Status)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application No.)  
(出願番号)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)  
(出願の年月日)

(現況)  
(特許済み、係属中、放棄済み)

(Status)  
(patented, pending, abandoned)

☐ その他の合衆国又は国際特許出願番号は別紙の追補優先権欄にて記載する。

☐ Additional U. S. or international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

私は、ここに自己の知識にもとづいて行った陳述がすべて真実であり、自己の有する情報および信ずるところに従って行った陳述が真実であると信じ、さらに故意に虚偽の陳述等を行った場合、合衆国法典第18部第1001条により、罰金もしくは禁錮に処せられるか、またはこれらの刑が併科され、またかかる故意による虚偽による陳述が本願ないし本願に対して付与される特許の有効性を損なうことがあることを認識して、以下の陳述を行ったことを宣言する。

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

私、下記署名者は、ここに記載の米国弁護士または代理人に本出願に関し特許商標庁にて取られるいかなる行為に関して、同米国弁護士又は代理人が、私に直接連絡なしに私の外国弁護士或るいは法人代表者からの指示を受け取り、それに従うようここに委任する。この指示を出す者が変更の場合には、ここに記載の米国弁護士又は代理人にその旨通知される。

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from either his foreign patent agent or corporate representative, if any, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.



## Japanese Language Utility or Design Patent Application Declaration

委任状： 私は、下記発明者として、下記に明記された顧客番号を伴う以下の弁護士又は、代理人をここに選任し、本順の手続きを遂行すること並びにこれに関する一切の行為を特許商標庁に対して行うことを委任する。そして全ての通信はこの顧客番号宛に発送される。

顧客番号 7055

現在選任された弁護士は下記の通りである。

Neil F. Greenblum  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
James L. Rowland  
Arnold Turk

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the attorney(s) and/or agent(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that Customer Number:

**CUSTOMER NUMBER 7055**

The appointed attorneys presently include:

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第2の共同発明者の氏名(該当する場合)	Full name of second joint inventor, if any
同第2共同発明者の署名 日付	Second Inventor's signature Date
住所	Residence
国籍	Citizenship
郵便の宛先	Post Office Address

(第三またはそれ以降の共同発明者に対しても同様な情報および署名を提供すること。)

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)